

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
MARCH 15, 2007**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order by Harry Saltzgaver, President, at 9:00 a.m., at the El Dorado Park West Senior Center Library. Phil Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine, took roll call and confirmed a quorum.

Present: Harry Saltzgaver, President
Drew Satariano, Vice President
Simon George
Albert Guerra
Bob Livingstone
Sarah Tong Sangmeister
Brett Waterfield

Absent: None

Staff: Phil Hester, Director, Parks, Recreation and Marine
Dennis Eschen, Manager, Planning and Development Bureau
Sherri Nixon Joiner, General Superintendent, Community Recreation Programs
J.C. Squires, Manager, Business Operations
Thomas Shippey, Manager, Maintenance Operations
Lt. Joe Stilinovich, Park Rangers
Bill Greco, Supervising Park Ranger
Geoff Hall, Special Projects Officer
Gwendolyn Parker, Superintendent of Contracts and Revenue Development
Robin Black, Executive Assistant to the Director

Guests: Stacia Mancini, 5th District Council Office

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 15, 2007

It was moved by Vice President Satariano and seconded by Commissioner Tong-Sangmeister to approve the February 15, 2007 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMISSION ACTION ITEMS

#07-0301

PERSONAL SERVICES/INSTRUCTION AGREEMENTS-MONTHLY APPROVAL

It was moved by Vice President Satariano and seconded by Commissioner Guerra to authorize the Manager of Community Recreation Services Bureau, or his or her management designee, to execute the Personal Services and Instruction Agreements and amend Attachment "A" of the agreements as needed. The motion carried unanimously.

#07-0302

RECOMMENDATION REGARDING "TROLLEY PARK" AS THE POTENTIAL NAME FOR THE MINI-PARK AT 2ND STREET AND REDONDO AVENUE

Mr. Eschen described where this mini-park is located and distributed maps of where the Pacific Electric right-of-way is located.

Commissioner Guerra asked if this is the only place in Long Beach where trolleys are recognized.

Mr. Eschen responded yes, as far as the name. He said that there is another trolley stop that is now a mini-park, by the name of Plaza Zaferia. It takes the name of the trolley stop; however, it does not recognize the trolley system.

Commissioner Guerra asked if we should do more to recognize this part of Long Beach's history, such as a monument or a photo montage.

Mr. Eschen said that Orizaba Park is another park that is built on part of the right-of-way, Rotary Centennial Park is built on the right-of-way, and the City is planning to purchase more of the right-of-way, so there are opportunities in the future to recognize the trolleys. At Orizaba Park, the community is very interested in the trolley and railway history. The former downtown depot building is located at the City's maintenance yard on San Francisco Avenue. That is in the process of being offered for sale, so there is an opportunity to relocate that building to Orizaba Park. The City has filed an application to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority for funding to move and restore that depot at Orizaba Park. He said that Orizaba Park would be a better location to explain that history.

President Saltzgaver stated that the Orizaba Park site might be a good opportunity to partner with Long Beach Transit.

Commissioner Waterfield asked if there would be any development other than signage at Trolley Park?

Mr. Eschen responded that there are plans to install one or two benches, in addition to a concrete neighborhood identification sign as well as the park sign.

It was moved by Commissioner Waterfield and seconded by Commissioner Tong Sangmeister to recommend to the Housing and Neighborhood Committee, and the full City Council, that Trolley Park is an appropriate name for the mini-park located at 2nd Street and Redondo Avenue. The motion carried unanimously.

#07-0303

REQUEST TO EXECUTE A FIRST AMENDMENT TO PERMIT NO. 27573 WITH THE LONG BEACH LAWN BOWLING CLUB TO EXTEND THE PERMIT TERM FIVE YEARS THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2011, AND AMEND AND EXECUTE THE PERMIT TO EXERCISE THE REMAINING FIVE-YEAR RENEWAL PROVISION

Vice President Satariano stated that he received phone calls from a couple of the lawn bowling members and they are a very viable group. We should support them as much as possible.

President Saltzgaver asked if the Department still used their building for programming.

Mr. Hester responded that there was not enough of a community response to hold programs in that building.

Commissioner Guerra asked what the permit included.

Mr. Squires responded that he would provide a copy of the permit information to Commissioner Guerra.

Commissioner Guerra requested that any future permit items have a summary of information regarding the permit included on the Commission letter.

It was moved by Commissioner Livingstone and seconded by Commissioner Guerra to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute the First Amendment to Permit No. 27573 with the Long Beach Lawn Bowling Club to extend the Permit term five years through August 31, 2011, and amend the Permit to exercise the remaining five-year renewal provision, at his sole discretion. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
President Saltzgaver, Chair

President Saltzgaver stated that the Committee did not meet this month, due to the 2007 California and Pacific Southwest Recreation and Park Training Conference in Sacramento. President Saltzgaver also mentioned that he is now a member of the California Association of Park and Recreation

Commissioners and Board Members (CAPRCBM). He said that next year, Long Beach would be hosting this conference. There were approximately 1,100 attendees this year in Sacramento.

Mr. Squires stated that the Department did have a booth at the conference, which displayed pictures from the Convention and Visitors Bureau. They gave away over 1,500 pins and the turnout in the booth was pretty tremendous. People kept returning each day to look at the pictures and ask questions about downtown Long Beach. He would expect a big turnout next year when it is held in Long Beach.

Vice President Satariano stated that the Parks and Recreation Commission should always have a Commissioner serve on the CAPRCBM.

B. FINANCE AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

President Saltzgaver, Chair

President Saltzgaver stated that the Committee did not have a meeting and that the report was included in the packet. He said that Mr. Hall also distributed performance measures for February and requested that the Committee members look at that, because it would be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

Mr. Squires stated that management staff is currently meeting to discuss the budget. The Department has hired a new Finance Officer, Tara Yeats, who comes from the Department and is doing a great job. The City is in the midst of submitting its 2008 budget and a lot of information needs to be developed. One of the items is to go through the Department's budget this year and project through next year what we call uncontrollable costs. Those costs are CPI inflation, demands by City Council or the City Manager's office, things such as those that are outside our decision process. We identified \$2.6 million in costs that we are spending that are outside of our control. Those were submitted to the City Manager for consideration to be added to our base budget for next year. We have moved some things around, done some cleanup work, and listed some exemptions. The exemptions are those items that would be exempt from cuts, such as the park ranger program and a few small programs like that. Enhancements would be done some time next month. The Department just submitted a memo with challenges and emerging issues for consideration, which we will distribute to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

President Saltzgaver suggested that the Department's budget be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Mr. Hester also suggested a meeting to show the Executive Committee the uncontrollable cost items and the budget challenges.

Commissioner Guerra asked about the key performance measures. He said that if there are more attendees in a park program, is the budget adjusted?

Mr. Squires responded no. The new performance budget program that the City uses is to organize things by activity, line of business, program, and so a certain amount of money is allocated to conduct a certain program, not by the amount of attendees. The City has limited funding for any kind of expansion or enhancements.

Mr. Hester stated that this report is designed to let the public know what they are paying for.

C. PARK SAFETY COMMITTEE
Commissioner George, Chair

Commissioner George stated that the Committee did not meet and that the report was included in the packet.

Lt. Stilinovich stated that Bill Greco has been Acting Supervising Park Ranger for some time. They held interviews for Supervising Park Ranger and Bill Greco was selected.

Mr. Greco stated that on March 8, they held a sting operation at Chavez Park and ultimately arrested a former employee, who had a second set of keys, for breaking into the building. On March 9 and 10, they continued their undercover surveillance at Silverado Park for graffiti. He also mentioned training that the park rangers would be given.

Commissioner Tong Sangmeister asked about the problems at the El Dorado Skate Park.

Mr. Hester stated that a meeting is being set up, co-hosted by Councilwoman Gerrie Schipske, on April 18, at El Dorado Community Center, to discuss the problems and issues.

They also discussed the homeless issues and that the park rangers try to help them by giving them resource handouts and by giving them information.

D. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AND CUSTOMER SATISFACTION COMMITTEE
Commissioner Guerra, Chair

Commissioner Guerra stated that the Committee met this morning and discussed goals and how the Committee can best serve.

E. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS COMMITTEE
Vice President Satariano, Chair

Vice President Satariano stated that the Committee did not meet, that they would meet next month.

F. CITY SCHOOLS/JOINT COMMITTEE
Commissioner Tong Sangmeister, Chair

Commissioner Tong Sangmeister stated that the Committee did not meet. She said that she would work on a draft e-mail and discuss that with Mr. Hester regarding after school programs. She also talked to a few after school groups and she would continue to work on that.

Commissioner Waterfield suggested that the Commissioners who are on the Committee should meet before the next Shared Use meeting to discuss issues.

G. SPECIAL EVENTS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
Commissioner Livingstone, Chair

Commissioner Livingstone stated that the Committee met last week. They are reviewing the special events application. They discussed the dog park and Mr. Hall set up a meeting for the first of April with the professional dog walkers to let them know what direction we are heading in and to see if they have anything they would like to change, before the public meeting is held. They also discussed the Daisy Lane Parade and are trying to get everyone on the same page for that event.

V. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO COMMISSION**

A. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT – FEBRUARY 2007

President Saltzgaver asked for any questions on the monthly report. There were no comments or questions.

It was moved by Commissioner Livingstone and seconded by Vice President Satariano to receive and file the Director's Monthly Report for February 2007. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. **CORRESPONDENCE**

President Saltzgaver stated that no correspondence was received.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Saltzgaver stated that there was no unfinished business.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

President Saltzgaver stated that there was no new business.

IX. COMMENTS

A. AUDIENCE

President Saltzgaver asked for comments from the audience.

Ms. Stacia Mancini, of the 5th District Council office, stated that she has one item that Mr. Hester talked about briefly, the skate park meeting on April 18, at El Dorado Park Community Center. The Youth Council will be running the meeting. She also stated that the Rosie the Riveter Park dedication would be held on March 24, from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Livingstone stated that there is a kid at Long Beach State, a water polo player who cracked his head open when he was skating without a helmet. He has expressed an interest in talking to the skaters about the need to use a helmet.

B. STAFF

President Saltzgaver asked for comments from the staff.

Mr. Hester distributed notices about the Admiral Kidd Community Center opening on April 24, at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Hall stated that the Department has completed a written report version of RiverLink and the document is currently being printed. The Commissioner would be given a copy.

Mr. Hester stated that this would go before the City Council and other groups, and probably to state and federal legislators, looking for funding.

Mr. Eschen stated that at the CPRS Conference, Sea Festival won an award for best economic development program in the state.

Ms. Sherri Nixon Joiner stated that March 24 is the baby animals day at the Nature Center, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. She has rubber duckys to buy for the rubber ducky race.

Mr. Squires stated that Executive Officers of the new Partners of Parks Board met this morning and they are heading in a good direction. They will begin fundraising soon. He stated that two fundraising experts, who he met at the CPRS Conference, have agreed to meet with the Board to go over fund development.

C. COMMISSIONERS

President Saltzgaver asked for comments from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Waterfield stated that he met the Department's management intern, Heather Martin, during the tour of the parks. He would like the Commission to be given a presentation on her experiences and projects.

Commissioner George stated that the *Report to the Community*, which he received in the mail, is a good publication.

Commissioner Tong Sangmeister stated that she hopes we can continue a revolving art program, such as the Amgen art pieces that were in Bluff Park. She received a lot of positive comments about it. Perhaps the Grand Prix could do something like that, or the Volleyball Association or Sea Festival Association.

Mr. Hester stated that the Department is having discussions with Community Development for this type of art program.

Commissioner Guerra asked if the City took possession of the cannon from Shoreline Village.

Mr. Hester responded no, that nothing would probably be done until they finalize what will be done with Lincoln Park.

Vice President Satariano stated that Sea Festival would begin early this year, on June 24 and last until the weekend after Labor Day. There would probably be approximately 50 large events this year during Sea Festival. He also mentioned that the Hall of Fame Committee held their first organizing meeting and he requested that the Commissioners pencil in the date of June 23rd for the Hall of Fame event.

X. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 19, 2007, at Admiral Kidd Community Center, 2125 Santa Fe Avenue, Long Beach.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

President Saltzgaver adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Black
Executive Assistant to the Director

c: Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine